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古事記の漢語とその思想

— 崇神記に見える「神氣」をめぐる —

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A Chinese Word and Its Meanings in Kojiki

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Abstract

In the historical documents which pertain to Emperor Sujin in Kojiki, there is a story about the God of Omononushi. When the epidemic known as “神氣” was prevalent in the Japan of that era, the God known as Omononushi stated that if the people worshiped him the epidemic = “神氣” would cease to exist.

Until now, Japanese literary analysis has not explored the meaning of this Chinese word in enough depth. As a general rule, scholars typically just explain that “神氣” is a curse “祟り” because the God was looked upon as a native born god. This essay attempts to prove the influence of Chinese Taoism on the meanings of “神氣”.

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